

Parachute Automatic Opening Device



When a military parachute malfunctions, it is critical that the paratrooper deploys the reserve parachute quickly to ensure that the canopy has adequate time to inflate and slow his descent. While there are commercial Automatic Opening Devices (AOD) used by recreational skydivers, such devices currently do not exist for military static line jumpers who often perform parachute jumps from as low as 800 feet, leaving very little time for the jumper to react to a malfunction. There are also instances where a paratrooper may become incapacitated or unconscious and unable to activate the reserve to ensure a safe landing. Cybernet Systems Corporation has developed an AOD for military purposes.

The payoff of such a device for military parachute jumpers includes the potential prevention of 1-2 static line parachute fatalities per year, as well as the probable elimination of training-related incidents caused by broken static lines and total canopy malfunctions.



PHASE III IMPACT

- \$300,000 Research and Development funds from Natick Soldier Center.
- Cybernet Systems AOD will be a Pre-Planned Product Improvement (P3I) for the Advanced Tactical Parachute System (ATPS) program.

